

## WORRY SHIFTS TO ENEMY AS 3RD YR. OPENS

France More Cheerful Now as to Outcome.

Sees Crisis of Exhaustion Dawning on Teutons.

GERMANY PREPARED 45 YEARS

Women and Girls Join to Make Allies Munitions.

Verdun Notable Achievement, Says Review of War.

Paris, July 29.—"The second year of the war ends with anxiety shifting from the group of the entente powers to that of our adversaries who are now obliged to meet a general combined offensive on every front," said Marquis de Chambrun, a member of the foreign affairs committee of the chamber of deputies, in summarizing the military situation for The Associated Press at the close of the war's second year.

"While French, British and Russian preparations become more complete, a crisis of exhaustion is fast dawning for the Austrians and Germans. Our adversaries thought it would be impossible for us to prepare, and certainly during the first year of the war there were difficulties that had to be overcome. We are proud to say that this was accomplished even while our valiant soldiers were resisting the German invasion. Thanks to the patriotism of the country and the abnegation shown by all classes in France and England, we are able to say in the second year of the war that we have met our difficulties in abundance. 'We have met our difficulties in abundance.'"

Submarines, Practical Harm Only.

"The Austrians and Germans resorted to submarine warfare, which I will not attempt to qualify. It may continue to work harm in a piratical form, but it will not open ports for further the commercial and naval blockade of the central empire, nor will it restore to Germany her lost colonies."

"The Russians are doing their work successfully on the eastern front. They have again invaded Bukovina and are pushing forward in the region of Lutch and into the Carpathians, while Grand Duke Nicholas is advancing victoriously in the Caucasus. The closer one examines the situation the more manifest becomes the anticipated ascendancy of the Allies, increasing as time goes on because of their unrestricted resources and unshaken confidence in their own strength. From various critics and experts on military affairs expressions have been obtained from which it is evident that, according to the French view, may be summarized as follows:

Sheer heroism saved France.

"The extent of the difficulties of the Central empire does not even now appear from the state of the war as viewed from a geographical standpoint, but has shown itself in the changed tactics in evidence and the coming obvious in the altered map. The operations of the Franco-British armies, outnumbered in men and guns during the first six months, saved France by sheer heroism, but could not end the war, could only prolong it and gain time. The Russian push into East Prussia, conquered Bukovina, invaded Galicia, crossed the Carpathians and even threatened Silesia, but exhausted their army in April, 1915, and lacked even the essentials for defense."

"The German knew it would be impossible for Great Britain and France to have caught up in nine months with the Germans' 45 years' preparations and felt them unable to break first with France, to turn upon the Russian armies. Nine divisions transported from the Franco-British front reinforced the Austrians and the offensive against the Austrians began in May. By the end of July Przemyśl and Lemberg had been retaken and the Russians were considering the abandonment of Warsaw and the line of the Vistula. Short even of rifles, many of Emperor Nicholas' army defended themselves with clubs during the long retreat in which was accomplished the second miracle of the war, the continuity of their line everywhere maintained, as well as the integrity of the Russian armies."

Proves Superiority of Allies.

"The battle of Arras in June, 1915, was considered to have been a draw, man for man, able to beat the Germans in the offensive, other things being equal, but the munitions and artillery of the opposing forces were not yet equal. The transformation of field tactics as the war progressed multiplied the need for heavy guns and powerful projectiles to break through concrete-armored lines. This transformation thus increased the superiority of belligerents who had the initial advantage in preparation, forcing their adversaries to a greater expenditure of munitions than their own while they themselves were able to shower the Russian lines with the biggest of shells."

Beginnings of Second Crisis.

"The end of the first year of the war was the beginning of the second crisis for the allies—a munitions crisis, aggravated by a diplomatic crisis requiring new enterprises that drew on their main forces. The landing of the French and British at the Dardanelles and the Russian advance on the eastern front, reducing the number of reserves on the main front, and if it did not modify their general plan it obviously made the elaboration of new plans difficult and hampered their movements."

"At the same time the enigmatic situation in the Orient became more serious, Greece refusing the compensation of Greece for territorial concessions to Bulgaria which might have facilitated a union of the Balkan states. The situation in Persia and Asia Minor following the entry of Turkey into the war had developed a menace to Great Britain in the Far East. The favorable impression produced by the advance

## END OF SECOND YEAR OF WORLD'S BLOODIEST WAR FINDS NATIONS IN DEADLOCK



Rulers of nations at war. Left to right, top: Emperor Francis Joseph of Austria, Sultan Mehmed V of Turkey, Kaiser Wilhelm II of Germany, King Ferdinand I of Bulgaria, King Albert I of Belgium. Bottom: King Peter I of Serbia, King George V of England, President Poincaré of France, Czar Nicholas II of Russia, and Emperor of Japan. Left center, King Nicholas of Montenegro. Right center, King Victor Emmanuel of Italy.

At the close of a two years' warfare, the most horrible of history, wherein are engaged most of the chief nations of the world and whose toll of death and wounded already amounts to millions, there are seen to be large territorial gains for the Teutonic allies, discounted through loss of colonies and trade, no great advantage to either side and no prospect of peace for a long time to come. From every side there comes the same word: the war must be carried to its bitter end.

The second anniversary of the great war is at hand. When Germany on August 1, 1914, declared war on Russia, the nations of Europe arranged themselves with Germany and Austria-Hungary on the one side and France, Russia and Great Britain on the other. The week of July 25 to August 1 saw all the first frantic preparations for the war that so soon was to follow. It was on the 25th that Austria and Serbia severed their diplomatic relations and on the same day the czar ordered the mobilization of his troops for the support of Serbia and on the same day the Kaiser started home from Bergen, Norway, and on the day following the Russian fleet sailed from the Baltic for the Danube river.

On July 27 the czar seemed to be in an unpleasant mood and willing to fight. On the day following he refused to consider any sort of neutrality and promised that the first invasion of Serbia by Germany or Austria would mean immediate war by Russia upon the Teutonic allies. On the following day, July 29, the czar assembled his cabinet and decided upon the possibility of a break with the Kaiser.

North of Arras had diminished in the absence of further operations and there was a notable absence of news favorable to the allies.

Women Solve Munition Problem.

"More cannon, more ammunition," was the comment of the French people on the difficulties that beset them. Women and girls joined in the efforts of the trained mechanics brought back from the armies to the forge and the machine and the curve of munition production took a sharp upward turn. The industrial efforts of the Allies were required to require the resistance of the Russian armies. The Germans advanced, but they could neither destroy nor dislocate the Russian forces, and the French made an effort of the Central Powers Drivsk held out and winter was upon Field Marshal von Hindenburg's armies with the Russian campaign unfinished. Even had it terminated then it was too late to turn against the Allies. Yet, Grand Duke Nicholas had won for the French and the British the entire fall and winter in which to continue their preparation.

Victorious in the East.

While intensifying to the utmost their production of arms and ammunition, the Allies began early in the second year of hostilities, with the Russian advance on the eastern front, the series of conferences that was finally to coordinate their military effort. Their diplomatic action, however, did not as yet reflect the same unity of purpose. No parallel result was obtained either at Athens or Sofia in negotiations regarding territory in Macedonia offered to Bulgaria, and there appeared to be a divergence of views among the Allies as to further action. Negotiations were still in progress when Turkey ceded the Dodecanese islands to the Allies, and the part of Adriatic to Bulgaria, forcing shadowing the latter's action against the Allies.

Germans Cross the Vistula.

Meanwhile the Germans and Austrians, after crossing the Vistula and occupying Russian Poland, transported part of the troops from the Russian front to the save and the Danube for another offensive against Serbia, which after her victory over Russia had weakened her. The offensive was launched by 250,000 effective men left to oppose them.

The French in the Champagne and in the Ardennes in September, gained considerable territory and made important captures in prisoners and material, but as in the preceding offensive north of Arras in June this movement failed of decisive results because of the narrowness of the front of the attack and the impossibility to push artillery preparations deeply enough into the German lines. The offensive was considered to have confirmed the superiority of the French soldier in attack in the Far East. The favorable impression produced by the advance

Upon his return to Berlin the Kaiser, on the night of his departure with his ministers and the next morning ordered the mobilization of his army. On August 1 war was declared on Russia and Luxembourg was invaded. On August 2, Austria, Hungary, Germany, France and Russia were embroiled and Belgium had been invaded and on August 4 England declared war on Germany.

Germany's first move was her march upon Paris, the ally of Russia. She was detained by the valiant resistance of Belgium, whose service to France at such terrible cost, has since been shown to have been invaluable. Without this help from Belgium it is quite likely that France would have been unable to withstand the rush of the Germans before her own forces were in proper preparation.

Paris was the aim of Germany's first blow and had it been successful she would have easily put in ruins all the French defenses and been free to attack Russia and Great Britain. It seems only too probable that the German armies would have been successful had it not been for the plucky intervention of the Belgians.

Detained as they were in their march through Belgium and northern France, the Germans found that upon reaching striking distance of Paris they were met by the ready and their struggles thereafter were met with repulse at every point.

Russians Invade East Prussia.

On the eastern front by this time the Russians had devastated East Prussia, one of the richest of the German provinces, and were threatening to invade the very heart of the German empire. The German forces on the French frontier

by the mobilization of the Bulgarian army menacing the Serbians, which threatened the eventual extension of the war to the Far East by the junction of the armies of the central empires. The Russians pushed forward but King Constantine refused to sanction the government's policy of intervention in favor of Serbia, Greece, ally, and forced Premier Venizelos to resign.

Must Save Serbia.

The allies heavily engaged in the Dardanelles now had to face either the eventualities of the crushing of Serbia and an unopposed junction of the armies of the Teutonic powers with those of the Bulgarian-Turkish coalition, or the additional burden of a campaign in the Balkans. The Dardanelles expedition had accomplished no appreciable result and the need of saving Serbia was more urgent than the opening of the Straits. There still appeared to be a certain lack of unanimity among the allies as to the Gallipoli peninsula and Saloniki. The landing at Saloniki was decided upon, however, and consented to by the Greek government before the resignation of Premier Venizelos. It began in early February. But it was too late to save Serbia, attacked by the Bulgarians on October 7, when the Germans and Austrians under Field Marshal von Mackensen already had taken Belgrade. Though they fought heroically, the Serbians were overwhelmed by attacks from two sides and driven into Albania, while the armies of the central powers formed a junction with the Bulgarians and opened the route to Constantinople.

Townsend's Defeat a Blow.

New difficulties continued to develop for the allies. However, in Macedonia the Turks stopped the advance of General Townsend's forces within twenty miles of Hagrad and drove him back to Kut-el-Amara, besieging him there. In Persia the gendarme revolted against the government, creating fresh embarrassments for the Russians. In the Balkans after the complete conquest of Serbia and the occupation of a considerable portion of Albania, the Austrians invaded Montenegro and the end of January all the Balkan peninsula with the exception of Greece, Rumania and a little corner of Albania was in the hands of the group of central empires.

That marked the limit of their successes. The advantage that time had gained for the Allies began to tell. General Ivanoff, commanding the Russian armies in Volhynia and Bessarabia, continued their offensive in January, with the occupation of Czarnow. Itself unimportant, the significance of this operation lay in the revelation it furnished of a refreshed and reinforced Russian army provided with new cannon, abundant supplies

of projectiles and sufficient power to plow up German field defenses.

Nicholas' Advance in Caucasus.

Of far greater significance was the advance in the Caucasus by Grand Duke Nicholas, forcing the fall of Erzerum, accomplishing the occupation of Kermanshah and, in military view here, virtually eliminating Turkey as a factor in the European war, besides re-establishing the prestige of the allies in Persia. Instead of a reservoir of men upon which they might draw to fill the void caused by eighteen months of heavy wastage, the central powers found at Constantinople the Turkish army, upon their resources. The Russian advance not only meant the recall of Turkish divisions that were expected to help the German campaign against the allies at Saloniki, but German and Austrian troops were sent with them to aid the beleaguered Ottoman forces in Armenia. Yet Trebizond fell after Erzerum. Nush was occupied, and the conquest of Armenia was nearly complete. The Russian version in the east had failed to break the cordon of steel, and in February the coalition of the central empires was facing a crisis of greater gravity than any that had threatened the entente allies. The Bulgarian army was almost barefoot, the Turks, except at Kut-el-Amara, were everywhere defeated, and the wastage of the long and unsuccessful effort to take Bvinsk had weakened von Hindenburg so that he was incapable of undertaking a general offensive on the Russian front. The Austrians, left to themselves, had never succeeded and the maintenance of a large force before Saloniki was required to hold Serbia and prevent the invasion of Bulgaria. The interior situation of Germany was officially admitted to be grave.

Why Germany Chose Verdun.

The German plan seems originally to have been to concentrate artillery, munitions and men in such force over a limited length of front that the onrush would be irresistible. They chose Verdun because it was the ancient fortress was such that the defenders had their backs to the river Meuse on two sides and because there were no give the greatest possible prestige with neutral powers and the maximum comfort to their own people. It was also possible they knew what subsequent political events in France disclosed—that the defenses of Verdun were not, in view of the field tactics of the war, as strong as other parts of the front. It is the belief of military experts that the Germans hoped to break through the

advances and renewed bloodshed throughout all this tragic region. Serbia, lined up from the first against Austria-Hungary, was disposed of with a few strong blows when the Germans had time to give it a little attention. Bulgaria, coveting Serbian territory, sided with the Teutonic allies in the invasion of Serbia.

Smaller Nations Get Busy.

The first year of the war saw the entry of several other of the smaller nations into the war. Italy and Japan joined the central powers, and with its fear of Russia joined the Teutonic allies.

Italy and Austria-Hungary are still fighting along their frontier with no great advantage to either side and Turkey, though it has felt blows from the strong arm of Russia, has also delivered some in meeting the French and British in the Dardanelles and in the Mesopotamian campaigns.

Two years' fighting, Germany and her allies are seen to hold the great advantage in territorial gains through her possession of Belgium and parts of northern France. She also has Poland and Serbia and Montenegro. On the other hand, she has lost in commerce, with her ships driven from the seas and the loss of the great part of her colonies discount much of her gains.

The two years of the war have brought death and lifelong injuries to millions, have scarred with pillage the cities and towns of many provinces and have placed their blight of disease and debt upon generations to come. The thrift and industry of peaceful times have produced weakness and resources that were quickly dissipated in the two years' frenzy of war just past.

front there and destroy the French armies. It was imperative that success be rapid according to this view and when, after three days, the advance was checked in the region of Douaumont, the project had failed. General Petain, as an official citation later revealed, had time to "reestablish a delicate situation." There was no time for the quick breaking through the French front.

Sacrifice at Verdun a Puzzle.

Every yard of ground gained by the Germans before Verdun since February 24 has been at an extremely heavy sanguinary cost. The continuing and expensive and fruitless an operation has puzzled the critics. It has been advanced that the Germans persisted with the object of exhausting the French forces and preventing an offensive by the allies elsewhere. If that is the case, the success of the allies in the battle of the Somme show it was not attained.

The battle of Verdun, if ordered with the intention of interfering with the offensive plans of the allies, in nowise diminished the chances of carrying them out, whatever the fate of the discarded fortress, it having now no more significance apart from the prestige of the name than any other point along the front. Local success there has long been discounted and, in military opinion can have no vital effect, while the attempting of a wastage process by the central powers at this stage of the war is held to be illusory and certainly enormously costly. The central empires have no longer reserves in such numbers that they can afford to launch them against the allies in the more hope of inflicting more damage than they suffer.

Heroic Defense of Verdun.

The heroic defense of Verdun, on the other hand, has been for the allies one of the notable developments of the war. It held German reserves there in such numbers as to put an end to the shifting of troops from front to front. It prevented the reinforcement of the Austrians, suffering from the loss of prisoners, with perhaps as many in casualties to the army as under General Brusiloff. It obliged the Germans to prolong during five to six months the expenditure of projectiles that was expected to continue only a few days, and has so drawn upon their reserves of munitions that they are now in a position where they are able to reply to the French and British guns in the proportion of only one shot for three.

The successful defense of Verdun and the successful offensives of the allies in the north of France and on the western front show at the end of the second year of the war that the final prepared war map on which the German chancellor held that the allies ought to accept negotiations as undergoing singular modifications, with the Russians occupying Bukovina and part of Galicia, the Italians

## ITALY EXPLAINS WHY SHE JOINED ENTENTE ALLIES

Claims Share of Glory for Halting Central Powers.

Rallied to Allies Because Fighting for Principle.

ARMY MAKING A MIRACLE

Cadorna Built Wonderful Fighting Machine in 10 Months.

Dispute Over Frontier With Austria Since 1866.

Rome, July 29.—Complying with a request from the Associated Press, the Italian authorities have prepared a statement reviewing the past year of the Italian viewpoint. Although the anniversaries that are marked by the early days of August close the second year of the war for Germany, Austria-Hungary, Russia, France and Great Britain, Italy has a little more than passed the first anniversary of her participation in the conflict, which began May 23, 1915. But in the view of the Italian authorities, Italy's alignment with the entente powers has been no small factor in checking the successes of the central powers.

Credit to General Cadorna.

In the statement officially prepared for the Associated Press, great praise is bestowed on General Cadorna, the Italian chief of staff, as "a powerful organizer and cautious strategist," who is declared to have conducted his campaign against Austria with a view to the greatest possible aid to the entente allies. It is asserted that the early reverses of the Russians might have ruined completely the plan of the Russian retreat entered the conflict and forced Austria to employ a vast number of her troops on the southern boundaries. Further, the of-

recovering territory lost in the recent Austrian offensive and still in possession of the Isonzo region, and with the French and British in possession of more than thirty villages on the banks of the Somme that had been occupied by the Germans for twenty months and each of them transformed in the meantime into miniature fortresses.

Can't Predict When It Will End.

The Allies have caught up with the advantage of the Central Powers in preparation, and any further modifications of the respective positions of the belligerents, even when approached from the point of view of military operations or the resistance of the belligerents, even when approached from the point of view of the anticipated ascendancy of the Allies, arising from their unrestricted resources, appears to have been realized.

The destruction of adversary forces is another and a far more difficult matter. In this war the end may be nearer than many hope or may yet be far distant. There are no bases on which to calculate the progress of military operations or the resistance of the belligerents, even when approached from the point of view of the anticipated ascendancy of the Allies, arising from their unrestricted resources, appears to have been realized.

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fensive which the Italians have launched from time to time rendered it impossible for Austria to carry out her purpose of sending troops and artillery either to the aid of the German crown prince for the attack on Verdun or to back the Italian advance.

Issues Official Statement.

As given out, the Italian statement reads as follows: "The war which Italy is fighting with her allies is imperfectly understood abroad in its ideals as well as in its technical development, thus needing explanations even after a year of Italy's participation in the conflict."

"When the European war began Italy held back for ten months, respecting the alliance which for a third of a century had bound her to the Central Empires. But longer she could not disregard the call of the entente powers. They were fighting for a principle of nationality and for the freedom of the Balkans. They were fighting for principles of law and justice of which Italy has been an exponent since the time of the Italian revolution."

"Furthermore Italy could no longer delay solution of the question of the Italian provinces that were still subject to the invasion of Austria. It was imperative that Italy should contest the frontier imposed by Austria after the war of 1866 which gave her northern neighbors possession of all the gates and passes leading into Italy. It was imperative also that Italy should gain supremacy in the Adriatic, without which she could never be said to enjoy liberty and peace in full security."

Into War, Aug. 23, 1915.

"Although unprepared for war, we fortunately possessed General Cadorna a powerful organizer and a cautious strategist. Taking the Italian army on its modest peace footing as a basis, he transformed it through miracles of energy and military science, into a powerful, efficient, brilliant modern army, which on May 24, 1915, the day after war was declared on Austria, suddenly threw itself across the whole frontier into the enemy's territory."

"In doing this General Cadorna won two principal advantages: first, he gained the initiative of action; secondly, he made Austria the scene of the war. Throughout the campaign Cadorna aimed to render his allies the greatest possible aid."

"Italy began her operations just at the time when the Russians were obliged to retreat. The strong army which General Cadorna threw across the northern border menacing Austria may have saved that Russian retreat and prevented the German advance when the Germans attacked Verdun. Cadorna started a strong offensive along the Isonzo river, which prevented Austria from sending to the aid of the German crown prince large numbers of troops and artillery which had been prepared for that purpose."

Detracted Austria's Doom.

"Equal advantages have recently been obtained by Austria's temporary invasion of a small section of the Italian frontier in the province of Trentino. If Austria had not centered all her forces in this enterprise it would have been much more difficult for Russia to launch the marvelous offensive which she is now conducting. Profiting by the situation, General Cadorna attacked the Austrians so tactically that their removal from the Alps to the Carpathians to fight the Russians has been out of the question."

"In Albania General Cadorna likewise aided our allies. It being mainly impossible to save Serbia, Montenegro, he transferred the Albanian report of Avlona into an impregnable fortress, and thus, in the same manner that the allied troops at Saloniki have held back the Bulgarians, he has held back the Bulgarians."

"Above all others in this war stands our king, modest soldier and fervent patriot. He and King Albert are the

only sovereigns in this war who have never abandoned their place at the front."

Built Forts Up 10,000 Feet.

"The difficulties of the war which Italy is waging may be understood only by visiting our battle front. They are stretched along the highest altitudes at which warfare has ever been known. With all the advantageous positions in the prior possession of the Austrians, our enemies have to dig out of their nests, 10,000 feet up amid eternal snows. To her natural defenses Austria has added the most powerful modern system of fortifications."

"Still the Italians have gained ground, and all along have conquered territory on the right bank of the Isonzo except at Gorizia and Tolmino which are entrenched camps defended by almost impregnable mountains, part of the Carso plateau, the High Monte Nero ridge, the Ampoza territory, including Cortina, and part of the famous Dolomite Road, which is the shortest communication between the Italian and Austrian frontiers."

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Selected 200 Austrian Towns.

"But with this exception the Austrians have always been on the defensive and have lost about 200 towns and villages, 40,000 prisoners, more than 600,000 rounds of machine guns, several thousand rifles, all of which has more than ordinary value because they were taken from the Austrians in a country where it is difficult to replace captured artillery and stores."

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